(f) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to ensure utilization of ITI's expertise in communication sector and its survival against its overseas competitors in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in its Management Committee Meeting on 12.07.2006 has decided to continue reservation quota to M/s ITI Ltd.

(c) to (f) BSNL generally incorporate Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) clause in the tenders so that after sale services for the maintenance of the equipment so procured is assured. In one of the tenders, ITI could not meet the eligibility criteria of being a manufacturer of Customer Premises Equipment (CPE) and hence its bid was rejected. ITI subsequently has taken up manufacturing of CPEs and, therefore, they have tendered their bid in a recent Broadband tender by BSNL.

Foreign CEOS in Indian telecom companies

1660. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been proposed to allow Foreign Chief Executive Officer in Indian telephone companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether all aspect including security aspects have been taken into consideration before deciding upon such proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) As per the extant policy as notified *vide* Press Note No. 5 (2005 series) dated 3.11.2005, the majority Directors on the Board including Chairman, Managing Director and chief Executive Officer (CEO) shall be resident Indian citizens, enforced through licence agreement.

Digital Device

1661. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state: